

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1307

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 3 SANTIAGO 7376

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: CDES

SUBJ: DRAFT REPLY TO CONGRESSMAN FRASER RE CHARLES HORMAN

NOT FOR DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTION. FOR ARA-LA/BC ONLY

REF: KARKASHIAN-THOMPSON TELECON OF DECEMBER 5

AS REQUESTED REF TELECON, FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF EMBASSY DRAFT REPLY PREVIOUSLY POUCHED ARA-LA/BC. DEPT WILL NOTE THAT DRAFT TEXT LEAVES FOR DEPARTMENT REPLY FINAL QUESTION, CONCERNING RECOGNITION OF GOC, "AMONG QUESTIONS FOR THE DEPT OF STATE" SUBMITTED TO CONGRESSMAN FRASER BY MR EDMUND C. HORMAN.

BEGIN TEXT

I REFER TO YOUR LETTER OF JULY 15, 1974, AND TO MY INTERIM REPLY OF (BLANK), 1974, CONCERNING CERTAIN QUESTIONS RAISED WITH YOU BY MR AND MRS EDMUND C. HORMAN ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING THE DEATH OF THEIR SON, CHARLES.

FIRST, I WISH TO REPLY AS STRONGLY AS POSSIBLE TO THE SUGGESTION THAT THERE IS SOME QUESTION WHETHER OUR EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO "DID EVERYTHING IT COULD TO PROTECT CHARLES HORMAN, AS WELL AS OTHER AMERICANS." DURING AND BEFORE THE PERIOD WHEN EMBASSY PERSONNEL WERE ATTEMPTING TO LOCATE CHARLES HORMAN, THEY WERE ALSO INVOLVED IN PROTECTION EFFORTS ON BEHALF OF THE ENTIRE AMERICAN COMMUNITY IN CHILE, NUMBERING SOMEWHERE BETWEEN 2,200 AND 2,800 PERSONS. IN THE PROCESS, EMBASSY PERSONNEL CHECKED ON THE WELFARE OF OVER 600 AMERICAN CITIZENS AND REPORTED THE RESULTS TO RELATIVES OR

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FRIENDS IN THE UNITED STATES. THEY WERE INSTRUMENTAL IN SECURING

THE RELEASE OF SEVENTEEN AMERICANS WHO HAD BEEN DETAINED BY THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES, AND OBTAINED SAFE CONDUCT PASSES AND HELPED ARRANGE TRANSPORTATION FOR MORE THAN FORTY AMERICANS WHO WOULD HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO LEAVE CHILE OTHERWISE. THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED IN THE MIDST OF STREET VIOLENCE AND CHILEAN ADMINISTRATIVE DISORGANIZATION, AND WITH EFFORTS IMPEDED BY DIFFICULTIES IN COMMUNICATION, A STRICT CURFEW AND SEVERE MILITARY RESTRICTIONS ON PERSONNEL MOVEMENT AND ACTIVITY.

TURNING SPECIFICALLY TO THE EMBASSY'S EFFORT TO PROTECT CHARLES HORMAN, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD BEGIN WITH CHARLES' FIRST CONTACT WITH PERSONNEL OF THE U.S. MILITARY GROUP MISSION IN VINA DEL MAR. MISS SIMON'S STATEMENT SHOWS THAT SHE AND CHARLES WERE PROVIDED WITH INFORMATION ABOUT THE SITUATION THEN EXISTING IN CHILE AND ADVISED TO STAY IN VINA DEL MAR UNTIL THE SITUATION IMPROVED. THEY ENJOYED THE HOSPITALITY OF VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE MISSION STAFF AND WERE PERMITTED TO USE THE MISSION RADIO TO CONTACT MISS SIMON'S PARENTS IN IOWA. AFTER CHECKING OUT OF THE HOTEL IN VINA DEL MAR, THEY WERE ALSO INVITED TO REMAIN IN VINA DEL MAR AS HOUSEGUESTS OF ONE OF THE NAVY MISSION MEMBERS LIVING IN VINA DEL MAR PENDING MORE SETTLED CONDITIONS IN SANTIAGO. HAD THEY ACCEPTED THIS INVITATION AND THE ADVICE TO REMAIN IN VINA DEL MAR, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE TRAGEDY COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED. THEY WERE GIVEN A RIDE BACK TO SANTIAGO WITH THE MISSION'S CHIEF, CAPT. RAY DAVIS, WHEN THEY INSISTED UPON RETURNING TO SANTIAGO AGAINST THE ADVICE OF OFFICERS OF THE MILITARY GROUP.

UPON THEIR ARRIVAL IN SANTIAGO, CHARLES AND MISS SIMON DID NOT CHECK IN WITH THE EMBASSY OR CONSULATE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 17, AND THEN ONLY AFTER HAVING BEEN TOLD BY BRANIFF AIRLINES TO DO SO. WHEN THEY CAME TO THE EMBASSY OFFICES THEY WERE PROPERLY REFERRED TO THE CONSULAR SECTION, WHICH IS LOCATED IN A SEPARATE BUILDING. AT THIS POINT IN MISS SIMON'S NARRATIVE SHE MAKES SOME STATEMENTS THAT REQUIRE COMMENT. SHE SAYS THAT "THE CONSULATE BUILDING HAD BEEN CLOSED AND CONSULAR STAFF HAD BEEN WORKING OUT OF EMBASSY OFFICES SINCE THE COUP." THIS IS UNTRUE. CONSULAR OFFICERS WERE ON DUTY AT THE CONSULATE BUILDING TWENTY-FOUR HOURS A DAY FOR THE FIRST FIVE DAYS AFTER THE COUP AND WORKED THERE BEYOND REGULAR OFFICE HOURS EVERY DAY, INCLUDING WEEKENDS, THROUGHOUT THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER. IT IS ALSO QUESTIONABLE IF THE SWITCHBOARD OPERATOR

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--NONE REMEMBERS HAVING DONE SO -- WOULD HAVE SAID THE UNTRUE THINGS MISS SIMON CLAIMS, NAMELY THAT SHE (THE OPERATOR) DID NOT KNOW IF MS. TIPTON WORKED AT THE CONSULAR SECTION AND THE NOBODY WOULD BE THERE DURING LUNCH TIME. THE ENTIRE STAFF KNEW THAT MS. TIPTON WORKED IN THE CONSULAR SECTION AND THAT, LIKE THE REST OF THE EMBASSY, THE CONSULAR SECTION DOES NOT CLOSE FOR LUNCH.

AS MISS SIMON'S STATEMENT SHOWS, CHARLES HORMAN DID NOT COME INTO

THE CONSULATE WITH HER, BUT CONTINUED ON TO HIS HOME, WHERE HE WAS LATER PICKED UP AND TAKEN AWAY BY UNIDENTIFIED MEN IN MILITARY UNIFORMS.

IN HER DISCUSSION ABOUT HER VISIT TO THE CONSULATE MISS SIMON MAKES ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS WHICH REQUIRE SOME REPLY. ALTHOUGH VICE CONSUL MARIAN TIPTON IS NO LONGER IN SANTIAGO AND WE CANNOT SPEAK DIRECTLY FOR HER, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT SHE TOLD MISS SIMON THAT NO PRIORITY LIST OF PASSENGERS WAS BEING PREPARED FOR BRANIFF. GIVEN THE LIMITED RESOURCES OF BRANIFF AND THE HEAVY DEMANDS UPON IT, THE CONSULATE WAS ATTEMPTING TO SECURE HELP FROM THE AIRLINE -- AS SOON AS FLIGHTS MIGHT BE RENEWED -- FOR THOSE PERSONS WHOSE DEPARTURE FROM CHILE WAS CLEARLY URGENT. THIS INCLUDED, BUT WAS NOT LIMITED TO, TO THE CASES MENTIONED BY MISS SIMON. IT IS TRUE THAT MISS SIMON WOULD HAVE BEEN REFERRED TO COMMERCIAL FACILITIES FOR LEAVING THE COUNTRY, AS THOSE WERE THE ONLY ONES POTENTIALLY AVAILABLE FOR USE AT THAT TIME. IT IS APPARENT THAT MISS SIMON DID NOT EXPRESS ANY NOTE OF GENUINE URGENCY OR SHE (AND PROBABLY CHARLES HORMAN IF HIS NAME HAD BEEN MENTIONED) WOULD HAVE BEEN INCLUDED AMONG THOSE FOR WHOM THE CONSULATE WAS ASKING PRIORITY TREATMENT BY BRANIFF. AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW EMERGENCY CASES WERE BEING ASSISTED, THE CONSULATE MANAGED TO GET 31 AMERICANS, WHO HAD EXPRESSED AN URGENT REQUIREMENT TO DEPART, ABOARD A SEPT 19 UMM CHARTER PLANE ABOUT WHICH IT WAS ADVISED ON VERY SHORT NOTICE THE EVENING OF SEPT 18. HOWEVER, NOT ONLY DID MISS SIMON APPARENTLY NOT EXPRESS A SENSE OF URGENCY BUT SHE ALSO DID NOT ADVISE THE CONSULATE OF THE PRESENCE OF CHARLES HORMAN IN CHILE.

ANOTHER QUESTIONABLE STATEMENT MADE BY MISS SIMON IS THAT MS. TIPTON TOLD HER THERE WERE ONLY 200 AMERICANS REGISTERED AT THE CONSULATE. THE FIGURE WAS OVER 2,000 AND MS TIPTON WAS FAMILIAR WITH THAT FACT.

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MISS SIMON'S STATEMENT ABOUT HER DISCUSSION WITH VICE CONSUL SHAFFER IS ALSO INACCURATE. ALTHOUGH MR SHAFFER DOES NOT REMEMBER, MORE THAN A YEAR LATER, SPECIFICALLY HAVING SPOKEN WITH MISS SIMON, HE IS SURE HE NEVER SAID THAT THE CONSULATE HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROCEDURE FOR LEAVING CHILE. ALTHOUGH IT WAS THEN STILL IMPOSSIBLE TO LEAVE CHILE, UNDER THE STANDING REGULATIONS A CLEARANCE FROM THE INTERNATIONAL POLICE WAS NECESSARY FOR EVERYONE. IT WOULD HAVE BEEN FOR THIS LATTER REASON THAT HE WOULD HAVE REFERRED HER TO THAT OFFICE.

NOW LET ME TURN TO EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO LOCATE CHARLES HORMAN -- AND THEREFORE PROTECT HIM -- ONCE WE KNEW HE WAS MISSING. THE FIRST NOTICE OF THIS WAS RECEIVED AT THE CONSULATE SHORTLY BEFORE NOON ON SEPT 18 WHEN A NEW ZEALANDER WORKING WITH THE UNITED

NATIONS CALLED TO SAY THE HE HAD BEEN INFORMED BY ANOTHER PERSON THAT CHARLES HORMAN HAD BEEN DETAINED THE DAY BEFORE. ALTHOUGH HAMPERED BY THE LACK OF INFORMATION ABOUT CHARLES -- HE WAS NOT REGISTERED WITH THE CONSULATE -- PERSONNEL OF THAT OFFICE IMMEDIATELY ATTEMPTED TO LOCATE HIM. THE PERTINENT OFFICES OF THE UNIFORMED NATIONAL POLICE WERE CHECKED WITHOUT SUCCESS. THE NEXT DAY, SEPT 19, MRS JOYCE HORMAN REPORTED HER HUSBAND'S DISAPPEARANCE TO THE CONSULATE. SHE PROVIDED SOME INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY UNAVAILABLE TO THAT OFFICE. ALTHOUGH SHE HAD NOT GONE HOME ON THE EVENING OF SEPT 17, SHE SAID THAT NEIGHBORS HAD REPORTED THAT CHARLES HAD BEEN TAKEN AWAY BY PERSONS IN MILITARY UNIFORMS. SHE ALSO MENTIONED SOME TELEPHONE CALLS WHICH HAD BEEN REPORTEDLY MADE TO FRIENDS ABOUT CHARLES IN WHICH THE CALLER MENTIONED MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. ON THE BASIS OF THIS INFORMATION, THE EMBASSY'S MILITARY ATTACHE WAS ASKED TO CONTACT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE TO INQUIRE ABOUT CHARLES. HE DID SO, AND WAS INFORMED THAT MILITARY INTELLIGENCE HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT OR KNOWLEDGE OF CHARLES HORMAN. CONSUL PURDY, WHO HAD BEEN VISITING THE DETENTION CENTER AT THE NATIONAL STADIUM ALMOST DAILY TO INQUIRE ABOUT OTHER AMERICANS WHO WERE EITHER HELD THERE OR WERE MISSING, ALDO HAD INVESTIGATED THERE AND FOUND NO RECORD THAT CHARLES HAD BEEN DETAINED THERE.

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SUBJ: DRAFT REPLY TO CONGRESSMAN FRASER RE CHARLES HORMAN

NOT FOR DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTION. FOR ARA-LA/BC ONLY

ASE WE LEARNED SUBSEQUENTLY, ALL EFFORTS TO LOCATE AND PROTECT CHARLES HORMAN WERE IN VAIN BECAUSE HE HAD BEEN KILLED

EARLY ON SEPT 18, BEFORE HE WAS REPORTED TO BE MISSING. HIS BODY HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO THE MORGUE AT 1335 HOURS THAT DAY. ADDITIONALLY, EFFORTS TO FIND OUT WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO HIM WERE, AS IT TURNED OUT, APPARENTLY FRUSTRATED BY THE FACT THAT HIS BODY WAS NOT PROPERLY IDENTIFIED BECAUSE OF AN ERROR IN FINGERPRINT CLASSIFICATION.

I BELIEVE YOU CAN SEE FROM THE ABOVE THAT THE EMBASSY, AND SPECIFICALLY ITS CONSULAR SECTION, DID EVERYTHING WITHIN ITS POWER TO PROTECT AMERICAN CITIZENS IN GENERAL AND TO LOCATE CHARLES HORMAN. IF IT HAD KNOWN OF HIS DISAPPEARANCE, AND HAD BEEN SUCCESSFUL IN LOCATING HIM BEFORE HIS DEATH, YOU CAN BE ASSURED THAT EVERY PRACTICAL MEANS WOULD HAVE BEEN EMPLOYED TO PROTECT HIM AND TO INSURE HIS RIGHTS AS AN AMERICAN CITIZEN.

IN ATTEMPTING TO ANSWER THE SPECIFIC ALLEGATIONS MADE IN THE LETTERS FORWARDED WITH YOUR LETTER, LET ME TURN FIRST TO THAT OF MRS EDMUND C. HORMAN, CHARLES' MOTHER. SHE SAYS THAT OUR GOVERNMENT "HAS TREATED HIS EXECUTION CALLOUSLY, WITHOUT OUTCRY, AND HAVING DONE NOTHING TO PREVENT IT." OUR EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO HAS DONE EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER TO TRY TO DETERMINE THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF CHARLES' DEATH. IT HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED, UNCLASSIFIED

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HOWEVER, THAT HE WAS "EXECUTED," LET ALONE THE CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH HE WAS KILLED OR BY WHOM. AND AS I HAVE POINTED OUT PREVIOUSLY, EFFORTS COULD NOT BE MADE TO PREVENT SOMETHING WE DID NOT KNOW WAS HAPPENING.

IT IS NOT TRUE THAT THE EMBASSY LET CHARLES' FATHER SEARCH FOR HIM, KNOWING "ALL ALONG WHAT HAD HAPPENED." THE EMBASSY DID NOT KNOW WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO CHARLES AND GAVE MR HORMAN EVERY ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE IN HIS SEARCH. THE EMBASSY HAD ALREADY CONSIDERED AND INVESTIGATED MOST OF THE IDEAS HE PROPOSED. UNFORTUNATELY, NONE OF HIS EFFORTS HAD ANY MORE SUCCESS THAN THOSE OF THE EMBASSY. IT WAS ONLY WHEN A SECOND FINGERPRINT CHECK WAS RUN ON SOME UNIDENTIFIED BODIES, USING FBI FINGERPRINT CHARTS REQUESTED BY THE EMBASSY, THAT CHARLES' BODY WAS IDENTIFIED. ALSO, IT IS NOT TRUE THAT THE EMBASSY STOPPED MR HORMAN FROM PUTTING A REWARD STORY IN A SANTIAGO NEWSPAPER. ON THE CONTRARY, THE EMBASSY ARRANGED FOR THE REWARD STORY TO BE CARRIED IN TWO NEWSPAPERS.

IN ANSWERING THE POINTS RAISED IN MR EDMUND HORMAN'S LETTER TO YOU, LET ME FIRST SAY THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE AGREES COMPLETELY WITH THE FIRST TWO POINTS HE MAKES ABOUT THE OBLIGATION OF AMERICAN EMBASSIES. ON THE THIRD POINT I CAN MERELY REPEAT THAT HAS BEEN SAID MANY TIMES BY SEVERAL OFFICERS OF OUR GOVERNMENT. THERE WAS NO UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE COUP THAT OVERTHREW THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT.

MR HORMAN'S FOURTH POINT, ABOUT AN ALLEGED "LONG-EXPRESSED DISTASTE BY THE AMERICAN EMBASSY FOR ALLENDE SYMPATHIZERS" IS A VERY SERIOUS ONE, WHICH IS EQUALLY UNFOUNDED. THIS APPEARS TO BE BASED UPON HINDSIGHT RATHER THAN UPON CONCRETE EVIDENCE, AND I WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING SPECIFIC EXAMPLES OF THE "DISTASTE" SUPPOSEDLY EXPRESSED BY THE EMBASSY. THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN NO WAY FOR THE JUNTA (WHICH DID NOT EXIST AS SUCH BEFORE SEPT 11) TO HAVE KNOWN OF A "DISTASTE" WHICH DID NOT EXIST. THERE CERTAINLY WAS NOT ANY "ATMOSPHERE" OR EMBASSY ATTITUDE WHICH PREVENTED AMERICAN OFFICIALS FROM MOVING SPEEDILY AND VIGOROUSLY TO PROTECT AMERICAN CITIZENS.

YOUR LETTER CONTAINS TWO SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS WHICH MR HORMAN CONVEYED BY TELEPHONE. THEY CONCERN COLONEL RYAN AND THE HOTEL MIRAMAR. OUR REPLIES ARE:
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COLONEL RYAN DID NOT TAKE THE REGISTRATION CARD (THERE WAS ONLY ONE) FROM THE HOTEL. IN THE COURSE OF EMBASSY'S EFFORTS TO LOCATE CHARLES HORMAN AND ACQUAINTANCE ASSERTED HE HAD SEEN HIM IN SANTIAGO AT AROUND MID-DAY ON SEPT 15. CAPTAIN RAY DAVIS, COMMANDER, U.S. MILITARY GROUP CHILE, WAS AWARE THAT THIS WAS MANIFESTLY IMPOSSIBLE, SINCE AT THEIR REQUEST HE HAD BROUGHT CHARLES HORMAN AND MISS TERRY SIMON TO SANTIAGO ON THAT DATE AND ARRIVED IN SANTIAGO IN THE LATE AFTERNOON. NEVERTHELESS, THE ACQUAINTANCE CONTINUED TO INSIST THAT HE HAD SEEN CHARLES HORMAN IN SANTIAGO AT THAT TIME. AS A RESULT, UPON HIS NEXT VISIT TO VINA DE MAR, CAPTAIN DAVIS ASKED TO SEE THE REGISTRATION CARD TO VERIFY THAT THERE WAS DOCUMENTARY EVIDENCE THAT CHARLES HORMAN AND MISS SIMON DID NOT LEAVE THE HOTEL UNTIL SEPT 15. HE WAS GIVEN THE CARD BY HOTEL PERSONNEL AND RETAINED IT AS EVIDENCE WITH A BEARING ON THE CASE.

WITH REGARD TO THE SECOND QUESTION, COLONEL RYAN CLEARLY RECALLS THAT HE DID NOT BRING TO THE HOTEL A WOMAN WHO HE SAID WAS THE MOTHER OF THE CHILEAN WOMAN WHO STAYED AT THE HOTEL WITH CHARLES HORMAN. QUITE APART FROM HIS OWN RECOLLECTION, SUCH AN ASSERTION BY COLONEL RYAN IS UNTHINKABLE, SINCE HE WAS FULLY AWARE THAT MISS SIMON, AN AMERICAN, WAS STAYING AT THE HOTEL WITH CHARLES HORMAN.

ALSO APPENDED TO THE LETTERS OF MR AND MRS HORMAN IS A SECTION ENTITLED "QUESTIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE," FOR WHICH I HOPE THAT THE FOLLOWING WILL PROVIDE AN ANSWER. THE FIRST THREE QUESTIONS REFER TO SOME TELEPHONE CALLS REPORTED BY MRS JOYCE HORMAN, IN ONE OF WHICH MENTION WAS MADE OF CHILEAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. AS SOON AS MRS HORMAN REPORTED THE CALLS, EMBASSY OFFICERS CHECKED WITH THE APPROPRIATE OFFICER

IN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AND WERE INFORMED THAT THE ENTITY HAD NO INFORMATION ABOUT OR KNOWLEDGE OF CHARLES HORMAN AND MORE SPECIFICALLY, THAT IT HAD NO INFORMATION THAT HE HAD BEEN DETAINED BY ANY CHILEAN GOVERNMENT ENTITY. IN A RECHECK MADE ON SEPT 25, MILITARY INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS SPECIFICALLY DENIED THAT ANY OF ITS PERSONNEL HAD MADE THE CALLS REPORTED BY MRS HORMAN. MRS HORMAN WAS ADVISED OF THESE FACTS AND DID NOT MENTION THE CALLS AGAIN UNTIL OCT 5. IT WAS FOR THIS REASON
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THAT NO FURTHER INVESTIGATION OF THE CALLS WAS MADE UNTIL THE OCT 5 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR DAVIS WHERE THE MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE CALLS OCCURRED.

DURING THAT MEETING, MR HORMAN GAVE THE AMBASSADOR A NOTE WHICH READ "WARWICK ARMSTRONG 281663. GEORGE PLATT 41335. MARIO ROSTELLO 194507" MRS JOYCE HORMAN THEN ADDED ANOTHER NOTE AS FOLLOWS: "WERE CONTACTED BY MILITARY INTELLIGENCE TUESDAY 18 SEPT. EARLY IN DAY. THEY WERE ASKED TO COME TO NEAREST CARABINERO DISTRICT TO MAKE A STATEMENT. THESE PEOPLE DID NOT GO AS THEY SUSPECTED THEY WOULD BE PICKED UP." THIS INFORMATION DID NOT JIBE WITH CONSUL PURDY'S RECOLLECTION OR WITH THE RECORDS OF WHAT HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN REPORTED BY MRS HORMAN AND OTHER PERSONS. FOR THIS REASON PURDY INDICATED HE DID NOT KNOW OF THESE CALLS, AND AMBASSADOR DAVIS ASKED THAT A FULL INVESTIGATION BE MADE OF THE CONFLICTING INFORMATION. EMBASSY OFFICERS MADE A DETAILED CHECK OF THE CALLS, AS FOLLOWS, AND THE HORMANS WERE INFORMED OF THE RESULTS: (A) WARWICK ARMSTRONG, REPORTED HE HAD NOT RECEIVED THE CALL BUT RATHER THAT IT HAD BEEN REPORTED TO HIM BY A FRENCHMAN WHO RENTS HIS HOUSE. WHEN CONTACTED, THE FRENCHMAN SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN CALLED ON THE MORNING OF SEPT 18 AND TOLD THAT HE SHOULD GO TO THE NEAREST POLICE STATION WHERE A FRIEND OF HIS, "WHO MAKES FILMS," WAS BEING HELD. THE FRENCHMAN ADDED THAT THE CALLER NEVER SAID WHO HE WAS OR TO WHAT ORGANIZATION HE BELONGED. THE FRENCHMAN DID NOT GO TO THE POLICE STATION, BUT REPORTED THE CALL TO ARMSTRONG. (B) GEORGE PLATT, AN ABC CORRESPONDENT, DENIED THAT HE HAD EVER RECEIVED ANY CALLS ABOUT CHARLES HORMAN. (C) MARIO ROSTELLO --WHEN THE NUMBER GIVEN FOR THIS NAME WAS CALLED IT TURNED OUT TO BELONG TO A MAN NAMED MARIO CARVAJAL WHO WAS MARRIED TO A WOMAN WHOSE MAIDEN NAME WAS ISABELLA ROSTELLO. IT WAS SHE WHO HAD RECEIVED A CALL ABOUT CHARLES HORMAN, WHICH SHE BELIEVED

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TO HAVE BEEN MADE ABOUT THREE OR FOUR DAYS AFTER THE COUP, I.E., SEPTEMBER 14 OR 15. ALTHOUGH IT WAS POINTED OUT TO HER THAT CHARLES HAD NOT BEEN PICKED UP UNTIL THE 17TH, SHE CONTINUED TO BELIEVE THAT THE CALL WAS ON THE 14TH OR 15TH. THE CALLER HAD IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS AN OFFICER OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE AND HAD ASKED WHY THE "GRINGO WITH A BEARD" HAD HER TELEPHONE NUMBER. SHE REPLIED THAT THE HORMANS HAD OFTEN USED THEIR TELEPHONE WHEN THEY LIVED NEARBY AND THAT SHE DID NOT KNOW THEM WELL. SHE SAID SHE WAS NEVER ASKED, AS WAS CLAIMED BY MRS. HORMAN, TO MAKE ANY DECLARATIONS ABOUT CHARLES HORMAN, NOR DID SHE RECEIVE ANY MORE CALLS ON THE SUBJECT.

AS YOU CAN SEE FROM THE ABOVE, THE MISUNDERSTANDING ABOUT THE CALLS WAS BASED UPON THE FACT THAT CONSUL PURDY HAD A VERY DIFFERENT RECOLLECTION OF THE CALLS THAN THE INFORMATION PROVIDED, DURING THE MEETING, BY THE HORMANS. IN NO WAY WAS THE FORMER INDICATING ANY LACK OF INTEREST IN FINDING CHARLES HORMAN, BUT THE EMBASSY HAD ALREADY EXHAUSTED THE LIMITED POSSIBILITIES FOR INVESTIGATING THE CALLS AS REPORTED BY MRS. HORMAN. IT IS RATHER SURPRISING THAT MR. HORMAN SHOULD BRING THIS UP AGAIN. LAST OCTOBER, WHEN TOLD BY CONSUL PURDY OF THE RESULTS OF THE CHECK OF THE CALLS, HE APPEARED TO BE SATISFIED AND COMMENTED THAT HIS DAUGHTER-IN-LAW HAD BEEN VERY NERVOUS AND THAT HER SPANISH WAS "NOT VERY GOOD."

WITH REFERENCE TO THE FOURTH QUESTION, ALTHOUGH VICE CONSUL SHAFFER DOES NOT SPECIFICALLY REMEMBER HAVING TOLD MRS. HORMAN TO CONTACT THE DUTCH EMBASSY, HE MAY WELL HAVE MENTIONED THAT A

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DUTCH EMBASSY OFFICER HAD BEEN THE ONLY FOREIGNER TO HAVE GOTTEN TO TALK TO PRISONERS INSIDE THE NATIONAL STADIUM. HE SHOULD

HAVE ADDED THAT THIS WAS ONLY A ONE-TIME, ISOLATED SUCCESS AND DID NOT RESULT IN THE IMMEDIATE FREEDOM OF THE DETAINED PERSON. CONSUL PURDY WAS VISITING THE STADIUM ON AN ALMOST DAILY BASIS AND HE, AND THE EMBASSY GENERALLY, WERE AS SUCCESSFUL AS ANY EMBASSY OF WHICH WE ARE AWARE IN SECURING INFORMATION AND THE RELEASE OF DETAINEES.

IN THE FIFTH QUESTION, IT IS SIMPLY UNTRUE THAT THE EMBASSY FAILED TO TAKE ANY ACTION ABOUT THE STORIES OF WITNESSES TO THE DETENTION OF CHARLES HORMAN BY PERSONS IN MILITARY UNIFORMS AND HIS BEING TAKEN IN THE DIRECTION OF THE NATIONAL STADIUM. ACTUALLY, WITNESSES INTERVIEWED BY CONSULAR OFFICERS, AND BY MRS. HORMAN, REPORTED HAVING SEEN A MAN THEY THOUGHT TO BE CHARLES HORMAN (HE HAD LIVED ONLY A FEW DAYS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD) TAKEN AWAY IN A BLUE NON-MILITARY TRUCK BY A GROUP OF MEN IN CHILEAN MILITARY UNIFORMS. AN UNIDENTIFIED WOMAN, WHO WAS NEVER AVAILABLE TO BE INTERVIEWED BY THE HORMANS OR BY CONSULAR OFFICERS, WAS REPORTED TO HAVE TOLD A RELATIVE THAT SHE FOLLOWED THE TRUCK WHICH PICKED UP CHARLES HORMAN IN THE DIRECTION OF THE STADIUM, WAS DELAYED BY A TRAFFIC LIGHT AND LATER SAW WHAT SHE THOUGHT TO BE THE SAME TRUCK NEAR THE STADIUM. THE EMBASSY CHECKED FULLY ON THESE REPORTS BOTH WITH THE WITNESSES AND WITH CHILEAN AUTHORITIES

CHILEAN MILITARY AUTHORITIES DENIED THAT THEIR FORCES MADE ANY SEARCHES OR ARRESTS IN THE AREA WHERE THE HORMANS LIVED ON SEPTEMBER 17 AND INSISTED THAT WHEN CIVILIAN TRUCKS WERE USED THEY WERE ALWAYS ACCOMPANIED BY MILITARY VEHICLES.

IN QUESTION NUMBER SIX, I KNOW OF NO STORIES CIRCULATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE OR THE EMBASSY AT SANTIAGO, EITHER IN THE UNITED STATES OR IN CHILE, THAT CHARLES HORMAN WAS BELIEVED TO BE IN HIDING. THE EMBASSY DID PUT MR. HORMAN IN CONTACT WITH A FOREIGN JOURNALIST WHO HAD PROVIDED SUCH INFORMATION ONLY A FEW DAYS BEFORE CHARLES' BODY WAS FINALLY IDENTIFIED. THE STORY WAS NEITHER ORIGINATED NOR CIRCULATED BY THE EMBASSY. WE DO NOT KNOW WHAT CIRCULATION THE STORY WAS GIVEN BY THE JOURNALIST OR BY MR. HORMAN.

AS TO THE STORIES OF FRANK TERUGGI'S RELEASE FROM THE NATIONAL
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STADIUM, NEITHER THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE NOR THE EMBASSY AT SANTIAGO "CIRCULATED" SUCH INFORMATION. THE INFORMATION OF HIS RELEASE ORIGINATED WITH THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT. WHEN THE DEPARTMENT AND THE EMBASSY WERE ASKED ABOUT WHETHER FRANK HAD BEEN SO RELEASED THE REPLY HAD TO BE THAT SUCH INFORMATION HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT AND THAT WE HAD NO WAY OF VERIFYING IT.

THE EIGHTH QUESTION IS ANSWERED EARLIER IN THIS LETTER IN

REFERENCE TO TERRY SIMON'S STATEMENT. MISS SIMON AND CHARLES HORMAN WERE NOT TURNED AWAY BY THE EMBASSY -- THEY WERE MERELY REFERRED TO THE CONSULATE. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT CHARLES EVER WENT TO THE CONSULATE, OR THAT MRS. JOYCE HORMAN CONTACTED THAT OFFICE BEFORE SEPTEMBER 19.

THE NINTH QUESTION IS WHETHER CHARLES WAS REFUSED "ASYLUM" BECAUSE OF SOME AGREEMENT WITH THE JUNTA. THERE WAS NO SUCH AGREEMENT AND CHARLES WAS NOT REFUSED ASYLUM. AS MISS SIMON'S STATEMENT SHOWS, CHARLES HORMAN DID NOT AT ANY TIME ASK FOR ANY KIND OF ASYLUM OR REFUGE AT THE EMBASSY, BUT RATHER FOR ASSISTANCE IN LEAVING CHILE. HE DID NOT ASK FOR ANY ASSISTANCE AT THE CONSULATE, HWHERE HE WAS REFERRED.

THE STORY THAT A PREGNANT AMERICAN WOMAN WAS REFUSED ASYLUM BY THE EMBASSY BUT FOUND IT AT THE SWEDISH EMBASSY IS UNFOUNDED. THE WOMAN IN QUESTION HAD ALREADY HAD HER CHILD AND INQUIRED ABOUT THE CHANCES OF A VISA FOR THE BRAZILIAN FATHER OF THE CHILD. SHE WAS INFORMED THAT HE WOULD NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR SUCH A VISA UNTIL THEY WERE MARRIED, OR FILED A PETITION FOR A "FIANCE VISA." WE UNDERSTAND THAT SHE SUBSEQUENTLY ACCOMPANIED THIS MAN IN HIS REQUEST FOR ASYLUM AT THE SWEDISH EMBASSY. NO SUCH REQUEST WAS MADE TO OUR EMBASSY. THE INACCURATE NEW YORK TIMES STORY WAS NOT CHECKED WITH THE EMBASSY EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER ITS PUBLICATION.

ALTHOUGH THE TENTH QUESTION IS ACADEMIC -- THERE NEVER HAVING BEEN SUCH AN AGREEMENT TO REFRAIN FROM PROTECTING AMERICAN CITIZENS -- I BELIEVE YOU CAN SEE THAT IT IS NOT TRUE THAT CHARLES HORMAN'S DISAPPEARANCE AND DEATH WERE TREATED WITH INDIFFERENCE BY THE EMBASSY. THAT OFFICE'S COMPLETE RESOURCES WERE USED IN HUNTING FOR CHARLES AND, LATER, IN TRYING TO DETERMINE THE CAUSE

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OF HIS DEATH. BECAUSE, AS NOTED EARLIER IN THIS LETTER, THERE WAS NO UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE OVERTHROW OF THE ALLENDE GOVERNMENT, IT DID NOT OCCUR TO ANYONE IN THE EMBASSY THAT CHARLES HAD INFORMATION ABOUT SUCH INVOLVEMENT.

THE EMBASSY DID, AS DESCRIBED BEFORE, ARRANGE FOR THE RUNNING OF THE REWARD OFFERS MENTIONED IN THE NEXT QUESTION. THE EMBASSY IS NOT AWARE OF ANY LETTER DATED SEPTEMBER 28 FROM MR. HORMAN REGARDING RADIO REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION.

IN THE TWELFTH QUESTION, IT IS NOT TRUE THAT THE DEPARTMENT "LEAKED" A STORY THAT CHARLES HAD BEEN "KILLED BY MARAUDING LEFTISTS." THIS WAS ONE OF THE POSSIBILITIES FOR CHARLES' DEATH GIVEN BY THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES BUT IT WAS CERTAINLY NEVER GIVEN OUT BY THE DEPARTMENT OR BY THE EMBASSY AT SANTIAGO AS BELIEVED TRUE. BOTH CONSUL PURDY, AND INSPECTOR ROJAS OF THE CHILEAN

OFFICE OF INVESTIGATIONS, DENY THAT THEY EVER TOLD MR. HORMAN THAT HIS SON HAD BEEN "SHOT TO DEATH IN THE NATIONAL STADIUM ON SEPTEMBER 18TH." PURDY SAYS THAT HE COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT HAVE SAID THIS FOR THE SIMPLE REASON THAT HE DID NOT THEN OR NOW KNOW IT TO BE TRUE. IF MR. HORMAN REPEATED THIS STORY TO OTHERS, HE WAS MAKING HIS OWN INTERPRETATION OF WHAT HE HAD HEARD. PURDY REMEMBERS SPECIFICALLY HAVING TOLD MR. HORMAN THAT A BODY, WHOSE CAUSE OF DEATH ON SEPTEMBER 18 WAS GUNSHOT WOUNDS, HAD BEEN IDENTIFIED AS THAT OF HIS SON.

THE CHILEAN AUTHORITIES INFORMED THE EMBASSY, WHICH SUBSEQUENTLY INFORMED MR. HORMAN SHORTLY AFTER THE IDENTIFICATION ON OCTOBER 18, THAT CHARLES' BODY COULD NOT BE SHIPPED TO THE UNITED STATES BECAUSE OF ITS ADVANCED STATE OF DECOMPOSITION. CHILEAN HEALTH REGULATIONS PROHIBIT SUCH SHIPMENT. ALTHOUGH MR. HORMAN TOLD CONSUL PURDY ON OCTOBER 18 THAT HE WOULD PROBABLY WANT THE BODY CREMATED AND/OR BURIED IN CHILE, THE EMBASSY WAS INFORMED ON NOVEMBER 3 THAT MRS. JOYCE HORMAN WANTED THE BODY RETURNED INTACT TO THE UNITED STATES. THE EMBASSY SUBSEQUENTLY REQUESTED THAT THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT MAKE AN EXCEPTION TO ITS REGULATIONS FOR THIS PURPOSE. IN SPITE OF NUMEROUS EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD, SUCH PERMISSION WAS NOT GRANTED UNTIL MARCH 21, 1974. THE DEPARTMENT CANNOT SPECULATE ON THE REASONS FOR THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT'S DELAY IN GRANTING THE REQUESTED EXEPTION.

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WITH REGARD TO THE FINAL QUESTION, ON RECOGNITION,

END TEXT

(DEPARTMENT TO COMPLETE REPLY)
POPPER

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